

Monticello Field Office
Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement

Lead Agency: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Type of Action: Draft () Final (X)
Administrative (X) Legislative ()

Jurisdiction: Southern two-thirds of San Juan County with a small portion on the northern boundary within Grand County, Utah.

Abstract: The Monticello Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) describes and analyzes alternatives for the planning and management of public lands and resources administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Monticello Field Office. The Proposed RMP is open for a 30-day review and protest period beginning the date the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability of the Final EIS in the Federal Register.

The **Proposed Plan** consists of a combination of proposed decisions taken from an array of all the alternatives but using Alternative C (Preferred Alternative) from the Draft RMP/Draft EIS as its base. This combination of decisions was developed in response to internal, public and cooperating agency comments. It provides a balanced means to accommodate the widest range of public and agency concerns over resources and resource uses. It provides for continued access to and development of resources with stipulations and mitigation to protect natural and cultural resources.

Alternative A (No Action) is a continuation of existing management practices defined in the 1991 San Juan Resource Management Plan, as amended. **Alternative B** minimizes human activities, offers more protection for wildlife and other natural resources, and favors natural systems over commodities development. **Alternative C** (Preferred Alternative) balances the protection of important environmental values and sensitive resources with commodities development. **Alternative D** emphasizes commodities development over the protection of natural resources. **Alternative E** is based on Alternative B, except it emphasizes protection of 582,360 acres of non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics and allows for other activities consistent with that emphasis.

Protest/Comment: Protests must be postmarked or received no later than 30 days after publication of the EPA Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. The 30-day protest period (identified above) will not be extended. Refer to the instructions in the letter preceding this abstract for additional information on how to protest and comment. The close of the protest period will be announced in news releases, newsletters, and on the Monticello RMP website at: <http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/monticello/planning.html>

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